

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A moving picture playback method of playing back a moving picture including a plurality of frames comprising:

5 forming a first window based on a predetermined software;

forming a second window as a child window of the first window on the first window;

10 forming a third window as a child window of the second window;

setting a shape of each of the frames of the moving picture on the second window; and

drawing color information of the frame having the shape set on the second window on the third window.

15 2. A method according to claim 1, which includes setting the shape again after pause in the playback.

3. A method according to claim 1, which includes drawing the first window again after setting of the shape of the frame.

20 4. A method according to claim 1, wherein the first window includes characters and/or a still picture.

25 5. A moving picture playback apparatus which plays back a moving picture including a plurality of frames comprising:

an input device configured to input shape information and color information of the moving picture

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every frame;

a window system configured to generate a first window based on a software, a second window corresponding to a child window of the first window and superimposed on the first window and a third window corresponding to a child window of the second window;

a shape setting device configured to set a shape of each of the frames of the moving picture on the second window;

a drawing device configured to draw on the third window a picture of the frame having the shape set on the second window; and

a controller which controls the shape setting device and the drawing device according to a message from the window system to set the shape of each frame on the second window and draw the color information of the frame on the third window.

6. An apparatus according to claim 5, wherein in playing back the moving picture the controller instructs the shape setting device to set the shape and then instructs the drawing device to draw the color information of the frame according to the message from the window system.

7. An apparatus according to claim 5, wherein in pausing in the playback the controller instructs the shape setting device to set the shape and then instructs the drawing device to draw the picture of

the frame without waiting the message from the window system.

5 8. An apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the setting device instructs the window system to draw the first window again after setting of the shape.

10 9. An apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the controller calculates, as a coordinate of a upper left corner of the third window, a relativity coordinate relative to a coordinate of a upper left corner of the second window, and uses this relativity coordinate as a reference coordinate for setting the moving picture shape on the second window.

15 10. An apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the input device generates encoded moving picture data including the shape information and color information, and which further includes a moving picture decoder configured to decode the encoded moving picture data and input the shape information and the color information to the shape setting device and the drawing device respectively.

20 11. An apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the shape setting device sends an instruction to the window system and sets the shape based on the shape information on the second window designated by the controller according to the message from the window system.

12. An apparatus according to claim 5, wherein

a plug-in software of a predetermined software having the first window instructs generating of the third window to the window system.

5 13. A moving picture playback program recorded on a computer readable medium, the program including:

means for instructing a computer to form a first window;

10 means for instructing the computer to form a second window as a child window of the first window on the first window;

means for instructing the computer to form a third window as a child window of the second window;

15 means for instructing the computer to set a shape of each of the frames of the moving picture on the second window; and

means for instructing the computer to draw on the third window color information of the frame having the shape set on the second window.

20 14. A program according to claim 13, which includes means for instructing the computer to set the shape again after pause in the playback.

25 15. A program according to claim 13, which includes means for instructing the computer to draw the first window again after setting of the shape of the frame.

16. A moving picture playback program recorded on a computer readable medium, the program including:

means for instructing a computer to input shape information and color information of the moving picture every frame;

5 means for instructing the computer to cause a window system to generate a first window based on a software, a second window corresponding to a child window of the first window and superimposed on the first window and a third window corresponding to a child window of the second window;

10 means for instructing the computer to set a shape of each of the frames of the moving picture on the second window; and

15 means for instructing the computer to draw on the third window the color information of the frame having the shape set on the second window.

20 17. A program according to claim 16, which includes means for instructing the computer in playing back the moving picture to set the shape to the shape setting device and then draw the color information of the frame according to a message of the window system.

25 18. A program according to claim 16, which includes means for instructing the computer in pausing in the playback to set the shape to the shape setting device and then draw the color information of the frame without waiting the message from the window system.

19. A program according to claim 16, which includes means for instructing the computer to draw

the first window again after setting of the shape.

20. A program according to claim 16, which includes means for instructing the computer to calculate, as a coordinate of a upper left corner of the third window, a relativity coordinate relative to a coordinate of a upper left corner of the second window, and uses this relativity coordinate as a reference coordinate for setting the moving picture shape on the second window.

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